

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 216

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to recognize William Gass on becoming an Eagle Scout.

WHEREAS, at a time when this nation's youth face difficult challenges, the Boy Scouts of America is one of our finest assets, providing young men with an educational program that contributes significantly to their character development, citizenship training, and improved mental and physical fitness; and

WHEREAS, the highest rank a Boy Scout can attain is that of Eagle Scout and William Gass, after considerable effort and diligent preparation, has joined the prestigious Eagle Scout Court of Honor; and

WHEREAS, William, a senior and Honors student at Christian Academy of Knoxville (CAK), has demonstrated considerable ability as a leader among his peers; he maintains an exemplary grade point average of 4.2 while dedicating his time and energies to numerous organizations, including serving as a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta-Math Honor Society, and the United States Achievement Academy; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, he received the Association of Christian Schools Leadership and Academic Award; and

WHEREAS, William has also been actively involved in sports; he is a four-year Varsity Football Letterman and served as the starting center on the 2011 and 2012 State Football Championship teams for CAK; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, William was named All State First Team Offense Football by the Tennessee Sports Writers Association in 2011 and 2012; he was All District and All KIL in football in 2011 and 2012; and he served as a captain on the football team in 2012; and

WHEREAS, William has been involved in Scouting since starting in Tiger Cubs, and he attained his Arrow of Light when he became a Boy Scout; and

WHEREAS, his notable record of achievement as a member of Boy Scout Troop 20 in the Toqua District for the Great Smokey Mountain Counsel, sponsored and hosted by First Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, includes multiple Merit Badges and a history of distinguished service in a variety of leadership roles; and

WHEREAS, William has served as Troop Librarian, Patrol Leader, and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and he is a member of the Order of the Arrow; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, he attended the 100th Anniversary Boy Scout Jamboree in Washington, D.C., and attained all of the activity Rockers or activity Awards; and

WHEREAS, for his Eagle project, William and other volunteers worked a total of 248 hours building a sand volleyball court at their school; and

WHEREAS, William's Eagle project greatly contributed to the betterment of his community and reflected the true spirit of Volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, he passed his Board of Review and attained the rank of Eagle Scout in 2012; and

WHEREAS, in addition to sports and Scouting, William traveled to Nicaragua in 2011 to help build a church, and again in 2012 to help build a water tower and water system for a village; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we should pause to recognize William Gass as one of the most outstanding young people in our State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate William Gass on becoming an Eagle Scout, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final resolving clause omitted from such copy.